

SCRUTINY BOARD (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

THURSDAY, 19TH MAY, 2011

PRESENT: Councillor J Chapman in the Chair

Councillors M Coulson, G Driver, B Gettings, A Lamb,
P Latty, J Lewis, K Maqsood and V Morgan

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (VOTING):

Mr E A Britten	- Church Representative (Catholic)
Ms J Ward	- Parent Governor Representative (Secondary)

CO-OPTED MEMBERS (NON-VOTING):

Ms C Foote	- Teacher Representative
Ms C Johnson	- Teacher Representative
Ms T Kayani	- Leeds Youth Work Partnership
Ms J Morris-Boam	- Leeds Voice Children and Young People Services Forum Representative

106 Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed all in attendance to the May meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services). Members were thanked for their contribution to the Scrutiny Board's work throughout the 2010/11 municipal year, particularly their involvement at working group meetings and the case study approach.

107 Declaration of Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

108 Apologies for Absence and Notification of Substitutes

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor W Hyde and Co-opted Members, Ms Cox, Professor Gosden and Mrs Hutchinson.

The Chair advised that Mr Granger had resigned his position as Parent Governor Representative (Primary) and a replacement representative was being sought.

109 Minutes - 21st April 2011

An amendment to Minute No. 97, Annual Standards Report – Primary Schools, 5th bullet point under Members' questions and comments, was agreed as follows '... it was advised that turnover at inner city schools was

higher than at other schools. The average turnover at inner city schools was 5 years.'

RESOLVED – That subject to the amendment above, the minutes of the meeting held on 21st April 2011 be confirmed as a correct record.

110 Children and Young People's Plan Update Report

The Director of Children's Services submitted a report which presented the final version of the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-15.

Also appended to the report was a copy of the Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening form.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the following officers:

- Mariana Pexton, Deputy Director of Children's Services
- Stephen Featherstone, Performance Management Officer, Children's Services.

Members noted that the Board's terms of reference for next year would reflect the three 'obsessions' in the Plan.

RESOLVED – That the report and information appended to the report be noted.

111 Draft Terms of Reference

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which invited Members to agree terms of reference for the Board's inquiry into reducing teenage conception.

The Scrutiny Board agreed to include reference to vulnerable and looked after children as part of the scope of the inquiry.

Members discussed the following areas:

- The ongoing impact of teenage conception on achievement.
- The role of the youth service, particularly in seeking the views of young people.
- Checking whether information on international research on levels of teenage conception was readily available.

It was agreed that the proposed inquiry would be brought back for further consideration at the June Board meeting, when the work programme for the coming year was discussed.

RESOLVED – That the terms of reference for the inquiry, as amended, be approved.

112 Draft Scrutiny Inquiry - Service Redesign

This item to be deferred to the June meeting of the Scrutiny Board (Children's Services).

113 Annual Report 2010/11

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which presented the draft of the Board's Annual Report.

RESOLVED – That the Board's Annual Scrutiny Report 2010/11 be approved.

114 Scrutiny Working Group - Review of Children's Social Care System

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which presented the notes of the working group meetings by way of reporting back on the group's activity to the full Scrutiny Board.

RESOLVED – That the activity undertaken by the working group in relation to the review of the children's social care system, be noted and endorsed.

(The meeting concluded at 10.10 am.)